SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, there is a continuing neglect of the Programme Staff, ranging from the Transmission Executives to the Deputy Director-General of *Aakashvani* and *Doordarshan*. They have been demanding parity in their pay scales but their case is not being attended to by this Government. We have been raising this issue repeatedly. The agitation is continuing and thousands and thousands of employees are being compelled to take agitational path. In the last few days, so many *dharnas*, protest meetings and all these things have been continuing, affecting our national electronic media. I have spoken to the hon. Information and Broadcasting Minister and he has assured me that he will look into the case. Thousands and thousands of these employees are very much agitated because the Fifth Finance Commission has already stated that they will not look into any past anomaly. So, there interest is going to be permanently jeopardised as a result of the Pay Commission's Report which is expected to be submitted in the month of September. I have already talked to the hon. Minister to take all necessary steps immediately so that the interest of thousands and thousands of employees belonging to the Programme Staff are protected.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Thank you. This issue has already been raised once.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : Sir, I can only convey the feelings of the Members to the concerned Minister.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : The concerned Minister is sitting here. The Minister of Information and Broadcasting will of course convey it but the Finance Minister has declined to look into any anomaly. The feelings of the entire House are being conveyed. The Finance Minister is present in the House; he should at last give an assurance that he would concede the demands of the Programme Staff ...*(Interruptions)* His smile is not enough; he must give a positive reply. He can at least assure that the would look into the demands which would be conveyed to him by Minister of Information and Broadcasting.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : What was your contribution during 13 days?

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : All the good work done by us has been undone by your Government ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Fatmi, before you speak, may I say that along with you there is another name on the same subject: Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan will speak after you.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga): The Olympics being held in Atlanta are in their last stages but unfortunately India has failed to secure even a single medal. I want to draw the attention of the Government to the announcement that India would play host to the Asian Games by 2006. Whether it is the Asian Games on the Olympics, our level of performance has not been enough to win a medal.

I would like to submit to the Government to ensure that the team, which is sent to complete in any international sports, event, has the competence to compete in that level of contest. Even small countries have bagged medals in this marimolli sports event. All our hopes are now pinned on leander Paes for which Government cannot claim any credit as it is an individual effort. I would, therefore, venture to suggest that before entering into competition in any international sports event, Government should select some disciplines and concentrate on them. Today, we are spending crores on sports, but no tangible results are being achieved. I would suggest to the Government to hold a high level meeting with a view to constituting a competent committees. The Committee should select some disciplines and concentrate their efforts on those disciplines only. If need he, we may ship the next olympics and participate in the Olympics to be held after the next olympics. But we must come home with some medals. Otherwise

> "Bade beaabruo hoken tere kooche se hum nikle"

It is regrettable that India is a vast country but has failed to win even a single medal whereas smaller countries have shown better performance and better medal tally.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise a specific issue in the context of the Olympics being held in Atlanta. I would like to draw the attention of the House to the total neglect of Indian disciplines like wrestling. We could have won a medal in the wrestling events but the party politics indulged in respect Pappu Yadav and Kaka Pawar belied any such hope. I would like to bring to the notice of the House that Pappu Yadav was selected for training in Russia and while he was receiving training in Russia, it was decided to send Kaka Pawar. Pappu Yadav was recalled later on. There was a wrestling bout between the two and Pappu Yadav came out victorious.

Besides, we do not have proper coaching facilities in our country. We do have two coaches for free style wrestling, but we do not have any coach for Greco-Roman style of wrestling. Also no coach accompanied our contingent which participated in the wrestling events in Atlanta. The wrestlers who were supposed to contest in the 48 kg category, were forced to contest in the 52 kg.